## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of:

Docket No. 31773-CIP1

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

SAMSOONDAR, James

Serial No.: 10/040,843

Filed: January 7, 2002

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

HANDLING FLUIDS

Group Art Unit No. 1631

Examiner:

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## In the claims:

Please cancel claims 19 and 21.

Please amend claims 1, 6-15, 18 and 20 as follows:

- 1. (Amended) A set of dispensing tips comprising:
- i) a first dispensing tip comprising a lumen and a first and a second end, said second end being sealable, and
- ii) a second dispensing tip comprising a first open end and a second open end, wherein said second dispensing tip is sized to enter said lumen of said first dispensing tip.

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